

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 02290 100840Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----100850Z 016905 /11

R 100641Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2604
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 2290

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SY, US, EG
SUBJECT: SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 77289

1. AFTER HEARING SUMMARY OF SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON, ASAD SAID HE WAS TROUBLED OVER POINT SADAT HAD MADE ABOUT AN AMERICAN-ISRAELI SECURITY PACT. NOTING SADAT HAD URGED THIS BEFORE, ASAD ASKED IF THIS WAS AN EYGPtian OR AMERICAN INITIATIVE. REPLIED AS FAR AS I WAS AWARE, IT WAS SADAT'S IDEA AND THAT WE HAD DONE NOTHING TO ENCOURAGE HIM IN THIS FORMULATION.

2. ASAD SAID THAT IT WAS PERHPAS PREMATURE FOR HIM TO DISCUSS THIS IDEA BUT HIS VIEW WAS THAT ANY SUCH PACT COULD BE MOST HARMFUL TO THE U.S., THE ARABS AND AREA PEACE. FOR
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 DAMASC 02290 100840Z

AMERICA TO GIVE SUCH A GUARANTEE TO ALL COUNTRIES IN THE AREA IS ONE THING. IT IS QUITE ANOTHER FOR THE U.S. TO ASSUME THE POSITION OF A PARTY FORMALLY COMMITTED TO ISRAELI SECURITY. THE ARABS WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND THIS AS A SIMPLE GUARANTEE. IT WILL BE SEEN AS HAVING AGRESSIVE INTENT; A MAJOR POWER LIKE THE U.S. CAN GUARANTEE MIDDLE EAST AGREEMENT BUT NOT A SINGLE COUNTRY. "SUPPOSE ISRAEL COMMITS

AN AGRESSION, WHAT WILL THE U.S. DO THEN?" INTER ALIA IT WOULD PUT THE U.S. IN THE SITUATION WHERE IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GUARANTEE THE BASIC PEACE AGREEMENT FOR ALL THE PARTIES. HE ASSUMED THE USG WAS WELL AWARE OF THIS BECAUSE HE HAD NEVER HEARD THIS CONCEPT FROM ANY AMERICAN. ISRAEL MIGHT SAY IT WANTED SUCH A PACT BUT IF U.S. AGREED TO IT THIS WOULD CAUSE SERIOUS REACTIONS, IF NOT IMMEDIATELY THEN IN THE FUTURE. HE PLANNED TO TELL SADAT THIS WAS A HARMFUL IDEA AND URGE HIM TO DROP IT.

3. AS FAR AS THE OTHER POINTS IN REFTEL, ASAD SAID HE HAD MADE HIS POSITION CLEAR TO SECRETARY ABOUT BOUNDARIES, THE NATURE OF PEACE AND WITHDRAWAL. I NOTED THAT BOTH PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE SECRETARY HOPED THAT AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN ASAD, SADAT, HUSSEIN, AND THE PALESTINIANS, NEW IDEAS WOULD BE GENERATED ON THE ISSUE OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION. HAD ANY AGREEMENT BEEN REACHED BETWEEN HIMSELF AND SADAT ON THE IDEA OF LINKAGE BETWEEN A PALESTINIAN ENTITY AND JORDAN? AS YET, ASAD REPLIED, THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT WITH CAIRO NOR HAD HE HAD ANY SERIOUS DISCUSSION WITH SADAT ON THIS POINT. IN EFFECT, HE HAD NEITHER AGREED NOR DISAGREED WITH SADAT ON THIS MATTER. HE UNDERSTOOD SADAT HAD DISCUSSED THIS IDEA WITH THE PALESTINIANS AND JORDAN AS HE HAD DONE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. SADAT WANTS SOME KIND OF LINKAGE AND URGED THE PALESTINIANS IN THEIR MEETING HELD AFTER THE PNC TO ISSUE WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A DECLARATION OF "GOOD FAITH." ASAD UNDERSTOOD THE PALESTINIANS HAD REJECTED THIS IDEA. THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 DAMASC 02290 100840Z

PALESTINAIANS DESIRED A DIALOGUE WITH JORDAN BUT ONLY TO RESTORE SOME NORMALCY TO THEIR RELATIONS, NOT A DIALOGUE POINTED TOWARDS A POLITICAL LINKAGE.

4. ASAD SAID HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED THIS WITH ANYONE, EVEN WITH JORDAN. IN A PRESS STATEMENT HE HAD MADE, HE SUPPORTED RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE JORDANIANS AND THE PALESTINIANS BUT HAD REFUSED TO GO FURTHER THAN THIS. "AT ANY RATE, I WILL HAVE TO HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THIS MATTER. I HAVE NO NEW IDEAS ON IT."

5. COMMENT:

IT MAY BE OF SOME INTEREST THAT IN ANSWER MY QUESTION, ASAD SAID HE HAD NOT YET HEARD ANYTHING DIRECTLY FROM SADAT ABOUT HIS WASHINGTON TALKS.
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC02290
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770125-0039
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770471/aaaacjnk.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3e55bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 77289
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2848269
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADAT VISIT TO WASHINGTON
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SY, US, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR), (ASAD, HAFIZ AL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3e55bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009